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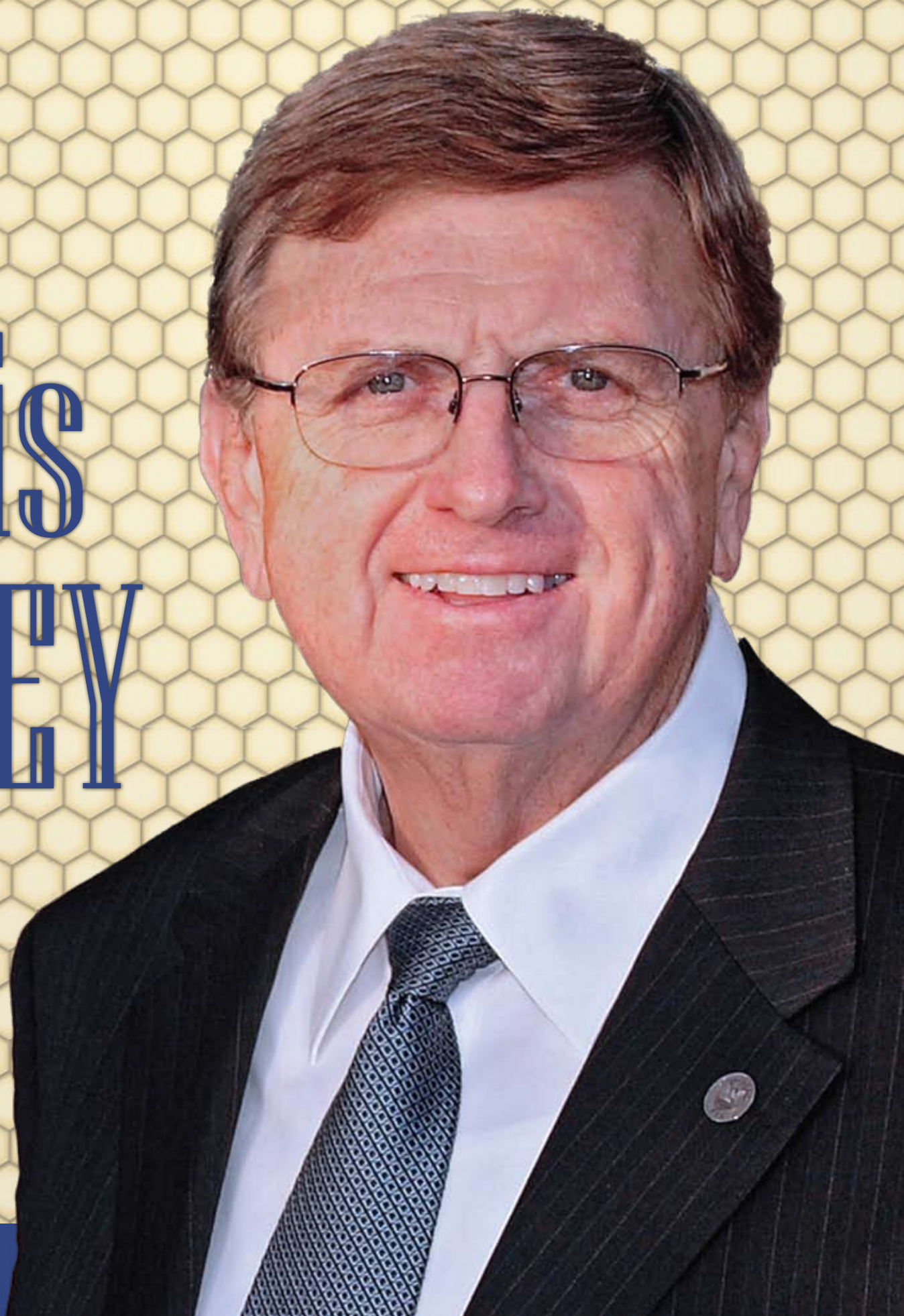
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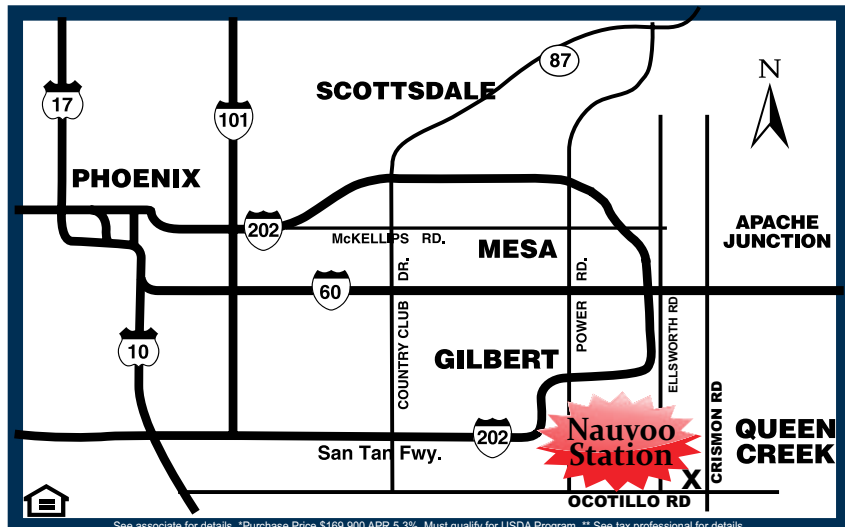
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COVER Story

Dennis Barney Leaves Legacy of Christlike Service and Compassion

He was called a "pillar of strength" and a "friend to all" and, as the many whose lives he touched will agree, "the

community, state, and even the whole country, lost a great man," when T. Dennis Barney passed away peacefully at his home on January 5.

By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

Photo courtesy of the Dennis Barney family

Dennis Barney, who passed away in January at 62, was married to Ann for 41 years and, together, they raised 10 children and have 24 grandchildren. Dennis was known for his integrity in business, his leadership in the community and the Church, his devotion and love for his family and the kindness he showed to everyone he met.

You could easily tell Dennis Barney's life history in terms of numbers and with a long list of accomplishments. Indeed, his contributions of time, money and resources to

hundreds of individuals and organizations were meted out in large doses. Yet, what it really comes down to is not to what he did, but who he was.

"Of all the people I'm acquainted with, I can say Dennis was one who

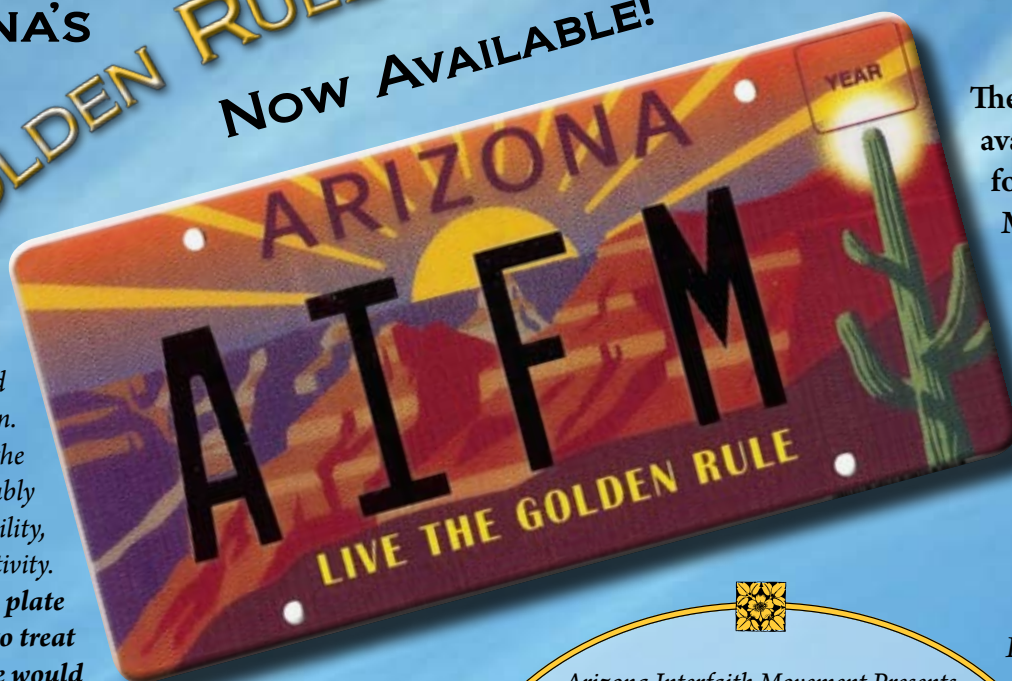
was truly living life in such a way that he was ready to meet his maker," says Dennis's long-time friend, Roc Arnett, president of East Valley Partnership.

Continued on pg. 5

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The Gaylord National in Washington DC had booked more than 1.4 million hotel room nights representing about \$352 million in revenue before its opening day: April 25, 2008.



Jobs and Revenue for Mesa

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Paid for by Yes on 300 - Primary funding provided by DMB and Gaylord Entertainment

Dennis Barney Leaves Legacy Continued from pg. 3

"His presence was bigger than life. His faith just radiated from him," says Carol McCormack, President of Mesa United Way. "Dennis was somebody you could read his faith every day in his face and in his actions."

Speak to any one of the hundreds of people he did business with over the years, ask the dozens of Church leaders and heads of community organizations he worked with or question his wife, Ann, or any of his 10 children and 24 grandchildren, and the story will be virtually the same.

"He was a devoted husband, father and grandfather. He was loved and respected by everyone who knew him," says Wilford Anderson, of the Sixth Quorum of Seventy.

His motivation, "was not for bouquets or applause," says Bob Evans, President and CEO of the United Food Bank. "He had a genuine love for everyone."

That love was shown in everyday acts of kindness, that he quietly and caringly amassed over the years.

"I can't imagine the amount of incredible good he's done for countless people," says Sharon Slater, of the Gilbert 9th Ward and President of Family Watch International. "I don't know of a more Christlike person

on the planet. He had an amazing ability to make you feel like what you were doing or what you needed was the most important thing to him at the moment."

Brother Arnett agrees, "As I stood in line for three hours waiting to greet the family at his viewing, I recognized that everyone there felt the same that I did. Everyone thought he loved them best. Dennis just had that way about him."

A Phoenix native, Dennis Barney was born February 8, 1946, to Talmage and Clarene Robson Barney. From an early age he demonstrated his strong devotion to family, taking great pride in his pioneer heritage and, as he grew up, working beside his parents and four sisters on their family farm at Val Vista and University drives.

He studied Agricultural Economics at Arizona State University and served an LDS mission to England. After returning home, in 1967, Dennis married his high school sweetheart, Ann Pomeroy.



Photo by Scott P. Adair

At the dedication of the Tempe Institute of Religion at Arizona State University on Sept. 16, 2007, from left, are T. Dennis Barney, Tempe University Stake president; W. Rolfe Kerr, commissioner of church education; Janet Napolitano, Arizona governor; Dr. Michael M. Crow, ASU president; Elder Henry B. Eyring and D. Hyrum Wright, Tempe Institute director.

Ann and Dennis raised 10 children—Jason (Traci), Denny (Nichole), DeAnn Clinger (Kade), Jennifer Nielson (Talan), Stacy Smith (Greg), Darin (Megan), Bryan (Shelly), Kimberly Lambert (Drummer), Justin and Lindsey—and they now have 24 grand-

children. Regardless of how busy he became with his businesses and his Church and community service, his family always came first and were his top priority and crowning joy. He also

Continued on pg. 6

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Dennis Barney Leaves Legacy

Continued from pg. 5

prized his time with his four sisters—Sue Ann Huso, Kathy Thompson, Jeanne Copple, Jaynie Stahle—and with the numerous extended family members he loved.

Known as a successful and influential businessman, his diverse career included ventures in ranching, custom home building and land development,

with his companies—Circle G Development, The Carpet Company and Landmark Properties—playing a key role in major East Valley developments.

Along with being instrumental in developing Circle G Ranches, Val Vista Lakes and The San Tan Village Shopping Center, perhaps his most noted work began in 2005 when, with the Church, he helped improve the area around the Mesa Temple, turning the blighted neighborhood into a suitable

gateway to the temple.

Dale Willis, Alta Mesa Stake President, commends Dennis Barney's business practices, saying, "I've known Dennis for many, many years, 20 or so in the community. My family and the Barney family go way back, and I'm in the real estate business like he had been, so our paths crossed numerous times for different projects were involved in. He was always very honest and friendly and had a uniting effect,

a way of making sure everyone was happy."

According to community leaders, he had that same ability to bring people together in other settings as well.

Dennis was the first chairman and founding board member of the United Food Bank and sat on several other boards and commissions. Among the groups that benefited from Barney's donations of time and resources were the Mesa United Way, the Boy Scouts of America, Brigham Young University, the Boys and Girls Clubs and Arizona Interfaith Movement.

Evans says, in working with The United Food Bank over the years, he found, "He was a wonderful man. He went out of his way to help folks. I can't say enough about Dennis Barney, his approach to life, especially his approach to helping the downtrodden."

Paul Eppinger, PhD, Executive Director of Arizona Interfaith Movement, says, "Dennis Barney was very generous. He was generous with funds, but even more generous with his spirit, his love and his cooperative attitude for everything we were seeking to do."

Dr. Eppinger adds, "Dennis was always so receptive and supportive of all the various faiths but you never had to guess what Dennis was—unashamedly, but not pushy about it—you knew Dennis was LDS, was Christian, you never had to guess about that. He was a man of tremendous integrity. I never heard him speak in a contrary way about any person or any other faith. He was so positive with people... a true example of the love we all know from God through Christ. We will miss him tremendously."

Church members will miss his willingness to serve as well, says Brother Arnett. "He was not only a tremendous force in the community, he was one of the mainstays of the Church."

He had served as a high councilor and bishop and in many other capacities. At the time of his passing, he was serving the LDS student population at ASU as the University Stake President.

Roc Arnett speaks of the great love and compassion he showed for the young people, noting, in particular, the care President Barney took when he had to reorganize the stake. "There were young adults attending who were not living in the stake or who were older, and he went through and cared for every single person and, I think, demonstrated the kind of compassion and kindness the Savior himself would have shown."

Elder Andersen noted that Dennis Barney's influence will long be felt. He says, not only are his family members following his example in many ways, countless others have been made better because of Dennis Barney as well. He says, even from the funeral, "People left that service with a desire to be better, to live a little more like Dennis Barney lived."



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LeSueur Car Company

Keeps Customers Coming Back

By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

Times have changed somewhat since Warren LeSueur's great grandfather first came to the Mesa area as one of the early pioneers. Yet, at LeSueur Car Company—the business Warren built right there along the Salt River his ancestor helped to dig out and create—customers can expect the same great service and care that has been their tradition for more than 33 years.

In fact, Warren says, with the current economic situation, it makes more sense than ever to buy a car from LeSueur's.

Warren says, "People like how we keep things simple, give individualized attention, and pass on savings as a result of our low overhead."

"Plus," he says, "prices right now are better than they've ever been before."

While some companies are cutting prices on new cars, Warren says, "Used car prices are better than new car prices, so you can do better buying a used car over new. The dollar stretches further and you get a better value."

Because LeSueur Car Company is on a county island, customers also save because they don't pay city sales tax.

"We also want people to know that financing is still very easy to get on our lot," Warren says.

He says customers know that the family-owned and operated business offers an excellent selection of used cars.

"We buy the very best cars available," says Warren. "We buy low mileage, fuel-efficient, well-maintained cars, with no body damage;" and, "Many are still under manufactures' warranties."

Most of all, Warren adds, the models they select are the safest available.

"My own father was killed in a car accident, so safety is very important to me."

Every car on the lot is "checked out mechanically by one of our FASE-certified mechanics," he says. "We also have people who spot-spray and take out any dings."

Warren and his wife, Carolyn, still run the family-owned LeSueur Car Company with sons, Kris, James, Steven, and J.T.; daughter, Kelsey; and nephews, Ryan and Drew, playing a key role in the family-operated business. Among the company's courteous and knowledgeable sales people are those that speak Spanish, the Visayan dialect of the Philippines and Navajo.

"We also have an amazing Web presence," says Warren, adding that customers can go to www.usedvwaudi.com and "take a virtual test drive or, from the site, can link to YouTube for complete descriptions of the cars, inside and out."

LeSueur Car Company also proud of their service department, which is open to the public.

"Our mechanics have years of ex-

perience and are skilled with rebuilds, touch ups, and maintenance work," says Warren. "We have honest mechanics who focus on safety."

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“BABY BOOMERANG”

chosen for the 2009 LDS Film Festival

By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

For Gilbert attorney, Mark Arnett, a trip to Holland in 1994 was the beginning of a different journey, one that led him to know his father better; to write, produce, and shoot a documentary about his father's life, and to ultimately have his film chosen to be shown at the LDS Film Festival in January.

Mark and other family members had gone to Holland where three men—the only living crew members of the B24 named “The Boomerang”—returned to the field where they had been shot down. Mark's father, Charles Arnett, was one of those three survivors.

“We stood in the soil where The Boo-

merang went down, and I was overcome with the idea that my dad—who I always thought of as just my dad—has probably one of the most compelling stories I've ever heard,” Mark says.

“Pretty much at that moment, I decided the story needed to be captured,” he says.

He started with a simple goal: Make a documentary about World War II that would help the “spoiled, pretentious, ungrateful” Baby Boomer generation more fully understand the “courage, valor of sacrifices of ‘the greatest generation,’” Mark says.

Though he had no background in

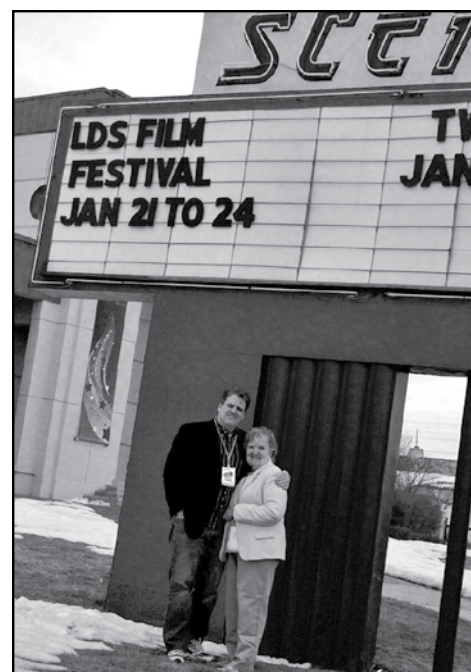


Photo courtesy of Mark Arnett

Mark Arnett, with his mother, Anna, enjoy the LDS Film Festival in Provo, where his moving documentary, “Baby Boomerang”—the result of a 14-year project to chronicle his father's life—was selected to be shown.

filmmaking, Mark laughs, “I have the ability to believe I can do something I have no business doing.”

Mark, of the Voyager Ward, Gilbert Val Vista Stake, says that day in Holland, he hired local CNN crews and shot foot-

age all day. It wasn't until he got home he found out the footage wasn't compatible with U.S. equipment. “It took me a long time to convert it to something that could be used,” Mark explains.

Next, he says, “I hired crews to shoot things here and there.” He also interviewed his father and his mother, Anna; and he began searching for actual footage from the war.

“By the time I got ready to finish, 14 years had passed,” Mark says, “and I had kind of grown up in the meantime. It seemed kind of juvenile.”

But, then, his father passed away. “I knew I had to finish,” Mark says.

“It was the most spiritual experience I ever had in my life. I had visions of what I needed to do and how to tie it all together, pictures I needed for 10 years all of a sudden I was able to find, I had a dream the night dad died about the song I should use in one part.”

He finished the film within a week. Just hours later, “Baby Boomerang” was shown in Mesa's Harkins Theater, to a standing-room only crowd. His father had been buried just that morning, with honors, in the VA Memorial Cemetery in Phoenix.

The finished film depicts his father's

Continued on pg. 9

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Baby Boomerang Chosen Continued from pg. 8

crash landing in German-occupied Holland, his 11 months as a prisoner of war, and his return home to marry Anna, the girl who pinned his wings on him in pilot training. While Mark admits it wasn't the film he set out to make, it is a reflection of things he learned along the way.

"At the beginning, I really wanted to show how different dad's generation was than my generation," he says. "I learned that maybe we're not as different as I thought."

The end result is a "very personal story that explores faith, courage, love, and the inescapable fact that, in many ways, we all turn into our parents in the end."

"Baby Boomerang" was chosen to be shown at the 2009 LDS Film Festival in January. The day after the festival, Mark flew to Germany to join his brother, Wayne, and two sisters, Marolyn Haws and Kat Ethington, in a re-enactment of the forced POW march from Stalag Luft III to Spremberg, Germany. Their father was among the thousands of British and American officers forced to make that walk. Many did not survive.

To learn more about "Baby Boomerang," and the wedding videos Mark makes, visit www.babyboomerang.com

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By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

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Owners, Jared McClure and Soly Lanciano, say Soltec Studios is a cut above similar businesses, thanks to extensive experience and processes and their in-house handling of all projects.

Jared says they transfer slides, beta tapes, camcorder tapes, 8 mm and 16 mm film and even LP records.

"We saw a need in the industry for this kind of work without prices that were outlandish," Jared says.

Jared, who has been in the video business for nine years, says, at first, the bulk of their business was videotaping weddings, seminars, Web and TV commer-

cials and virtual tours.

"Our transfer work was more on the side," he says.

Now, while Soltec Studios, still runs a complete wedding department and films all kinds of productions and events, the transfer work has become a major part of their business as well.

"We saw the opportunity and potential and developed a system to do tapes and CDs at a price the public is really excited about," says Soly.

"Now, our prices are so low that some people have expressed concern about quality," Soly says, quickly adding, "It's quite the opposite. We are top of the line, with excellent products and delivery."

Jared, a member of the Ashland



Photo by Cecily Markland

Soly Lanciano (r) and Jared McClure, owners of Soltec Studios in Mesa, say, with their extensive experience and unique processes, they are able to provide the best prices and unparalleled quality for their videotaping and media transfer work.

Ranch Ward, Gilbert, Greenfield Stake, says the company's services are particularly attractive to Latter-day Saints.

"LDS people are interested in archiving memories. Preserving their history and memories is very important to them," he says, "and they appreciate the high quality and low prices."

"Our customers are pleased and

Continued on pg. 15

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Closes Doors, *but Tradition Carries On*

By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

With their own remarkable brand of caring and creativity, the Haws family has added touches of beauty to nearly every neighborhood and thousands of family events in Mesa and across the Valley.

The family became known for their landscape services, then, for their flower shop—producing arrangements for births and anniversaries; bouquets and boutonnieres for wedding, proms and parties; floral tributes for Valentines' Day, Mothers' Day and holidays; and sprays of color and comfort for funerals.

Now, Edna and Henry Haws, the last family members to be involved in the 75-year-old business, have retired and closed Haws Flowers & Gifts at 531 S. Mesa Drive. In a move that actually brings them full circle, the Hawses are referring their former customers to Watson Flower Shops.

"The history of the Haws and Watson families dates back to the '30s and '40s," Edna says.

Henry's father, Walter Haws, grew up in the Mormon Colonies of Mexico, then moved to the Gila Valley. He married Maude in 1915 and they moved to Mesa, where Walter worked in the cotton fields, then on the Mesa Temple construction before taking a job with Mesa Public Schools as a truant officer, a job he held for 37 years.



Photo by Cecily Markland

The association between the Haws and Watson families dates back to the '30s and '40s, so "it just feels right" that as Henry and Edna Haws (shown left) retire and close their 75-year-old family business, that they would recommend their customers now contact Watson Flower Shops. David Johnson (second from right) and his wife, Pam, own Watson Flowers and run it with their sons, Nathan (shown) and Jacob.

Along the way, Walter and Maude had six children and opened Haws Nursery in 1934, the same year Henry was born.

While the oldest son, Lewis, pursued other interests, four of their five sons worked in the business in some

Continued on pg. 11



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capacity. In 1935, the Haw's only daughter, Laura, was killed in an automobile accident caused by a drunk driver.

Don Haws first went to work with his parents in the 1950s, running the nursery and landscape side. Next, Ross, who taught school and was a principal in California, joined the business, mostly as an absentee owner, but spending several summers working with the family in Arizona.

Haws Nursery experienced success, particularly in raising mulberry trees, and they landscaped much of the new development as Mesa grew.

At the same time, another family business, Watson Flower Shops, was becoming established in the community. The shop was started by Irene Watson, whose daughter, Eva, married Ernie Johnson. Ernie and Henry's brother, Lyman, were high school friends and Lyman went to work for Watson's, where he developed an outstanding talent for floral design.

Henry and Edna entered the Haws family business in 1962. Two years later, in 1964, they expanded their landscape business, bringing in Lyman to open Haws Flowers and Gifts.

After Walter and Maude retired, and the other sons had phased out of the business, "Henry and I became sole owners in 1988 and have run the business for the past 20 years," Edna says.

The family has served in the community and in Church, and the brothers, "continue to get together as often as we can," Edna says.

"We've been part of the Mesa Chamber of Commerce since 1960, and Henry has been a Rotarian," Edna says. He served on the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors from 1969 until 1978 and completed two terms in the Legislature in the 1980s. Henry served in three bishoprics and has been a high councilor in three stakes—Mesa South, Lehi, and, Mesa Mountain View. He currently serves as Ward Mission leader.

Edna, who joined the Church at 23, says she often thinks about the "great blessing it has been." She, too, has been active in the community, particularly working to effect change in the juvenile justice system; and has served in the various auxiliaries of the Church, doing "anything I've been called to do," she says.

As Henry and Edna close their doors, it seems natural that they would look to their old friends at Watson's Flower Shops to help with the transition.

Watson's is now run by Eva Watson Johnson-Quist's son, David Johnson; his wife, Pam' and their two sons, Jacob and Nathan. They also have employed Haws' lead designer, Susan Miskin.

"The Haws family has a tradition of quality service and products, at a reasonable price. Our goal is to maintain that proud tradition and to continue serving Haws customers in the way they have been accustomed," says David.

Watson's is located at 2525 W. Main in Mesa (480.967.0161) and 929 N. Val Vista #107 (480.632-8700) in Gilbert. Also, visit www.watsonsflores.com.



Gilbert Val Vista Stake Finds *Success* in Preparing Young People to *Serve Missions*

By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

The Gilbert Val Vista Stake has found great success in their efforts to prepare young people to serve missions.

Mark Kitterman, the high councilor who oversees the stake's mission prep program, says, "We've been working on it for about a year, year and a half. We've made some changes and they seem to be working."

"Working" may be an understatement.

Dennis McClellan, a counselor in the Stake Presidency, says, "It's an outstanding program. We think it should be a model for the Church."

Several things set the program apart. First, the stake has made it a two-year program, so 17-year-olds are invited to participate. "That has created enthusi-

asm and excitement, and we can really study 'Preach My Gospel' and get into it more," says Brother Kitterman.

"One thing that is different is that we're not lecturing them," says Hyrum Wright, a former bishop and one of two called to serve as teachers. "We keep them involved and practicing what they're learning."

The other teacher, Greg Slater, of the Gilbert 9th Ward and also a former bishop, says the hands-on approach is important.

He says, "These young people have grown up all together, in an area where there are not a lot of nonmembers that they really get to know. They are somewhat insulated and this does make it more difficult for the average member of the Church to gain [missionary] experience."

With the ultimate goal of "helping them open their mouths," the teaching itself models missionary work, with Bishops Slater and Wright teaching the lessons as companions.

"We have a true discussion, we role play for the boys and with the boys," Bishop Wright says. "And, we smile a lot. We laugh. Bottom line, we're having a great time."

The class focuses on "addressing all the fears they have right now about a mission. We help them become missionaries now," says Bishop Slater.

Brother Kitterman says a key component of the program is that "We have the ward Young Men's Presidents come. This allow them to account for their own

Continued on pg. 24

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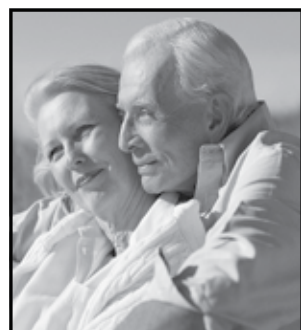
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New Store Greets Customers with All Kinds of Helps for PREPARING WISELY

By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

Following recommendations aside, just walk into the small, well-organized store, and you're likely to become an instant fan.

The clean, orderly shelves of Preparing Wisely boast a wide array of emergency supplies and food storage items. Add to that a back room lined with all kinds of grains, mix in good prices and friendly staff who go out of their way to make the customer happy.

It all adds up to a budding family business run by Troy and Tracey Adair, members of Porter Park Ward, Mesa North Stake.

The store, located on Mesa Drive, next to Deseret Book, really began as an answer to prayer, Tracey says.

"Troy always wanted to own his own business. He's been in banking for 12 years and he wanted to start something of our own," she says. Troy wrote down a long list of possibilities, then made it a matter of prayer.

"His answer was that we needed to have a business together," Tracey says, "and that we needed to open a food storage and emergency preparedness store."

"That wasn't even on the list," Troy laughs. Still, they followed the promptings and, soon, opened the store.

Now, it comes highly recommended from people like "Chef Brad" Peterson, known for his recipe books and classes about using grains.

"Their selection of grains is phenomenal," Chef Brad says, "high quality, certified, chemical-free products, all from the best growers and best distributors. And at great prices."

"People like our hard white wheat and we also have soft white wheat, oats, barley, rye, brown rice, spelt, quinoa, and even popcorn," Troy says.

In addition, Preparing Wisely carries buckets and mylar bags; water filters and



Photo by Cecily Markland

Owners Tracey and Troy Adair say customer service and top quality products are priorities at Preparing Wisely, their recently opened emergency supply and food storage store in Mesa.

purification supplies, as well as 55-gallon buckets and portable-size water containers.

Also featured in the full-service store are recipe books, freeze-dried meals, fruits and vegetables; powdered eggs, butter and cheese; instant milk and soy milk; two types of grinders and pressure canners.

Among the many emergency supplies are 72-hour kits, hand-crank radios and flashlights and the popular sun ovens and solar-based ovens.

Tracey, Troy and their store manager, Tracey's sister, Teana Shimakonis, try to stay informed, referring often to the Church's provident living Web site as their favorite source. They share information with store customers and post

Continued on pg. 16

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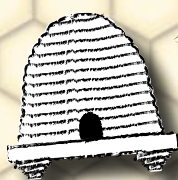
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Letters to The Beehive



Dear Beehive,

Another beautiful issue of The Beehive. You guys do a great job on this publication. We even notice our non-member clients reading through it and taking one now and then. Thanks for all your efforts.

Diane Edwards
Healthy Lifestyles, Diet Center

Dear Beehive,

I just wanted you to know how many wonderful comments, emails and phone calls I have received about the article in The Beehive about the "Facing Cancer with Faith Community" conference you wrote. I am so impressed with your reporting, writing, editing and publishing skills. The entire Beehive edition is beautiful, so professional and well put together. I love the front page and articles on adoption. It is excellent and so needed. My brother has adopted three children and the blessings that have come to them and their family are eternal! I am so impressed how many have read it already.

Heather Sandstrom
Cancer survivor

Dear Beehive,

I have been running ads in your paper for my Mesa-based Family Allergy Clinic for the past year. Allergies can really destroy a person's quality of life, and I love the chance to help people overcome allergies in the easiest way—through under-the-tongue allergy drops in the comfort of their own home. The challenge is getting the word out about this simple, highly effective allergy treatment method, and I would like to thank The Beehive for big results in this area. We have been able to restore well-being to many new patients as a result of The Beehive. It is obviously a very well-read publication.

With Appreciation,
Stuart H. Agren, M.D.

Dear Beehive,

Many thanks for continuing to publish such a fine and helpful newspaper. May the Lord continue to bless your efforts.

Sincerely,
Ed D. Lauritsen, Ph.D
Licensed Psychologist & Family Therapist
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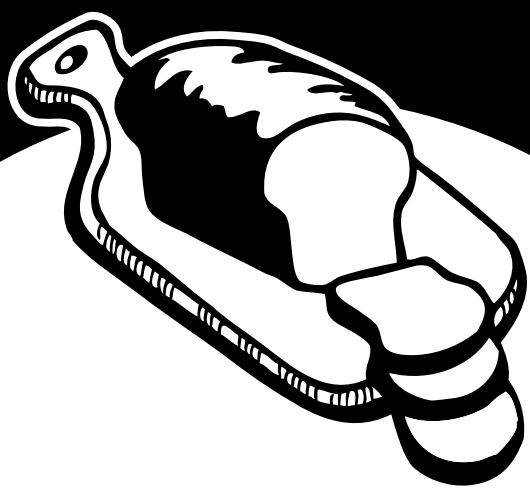
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Queen Creek School Named in Honor of *Newell Barney*

By Jill B. Adair
The Beehive

In honor of one of the area's long-time residents, the Queen Creek School District named its newest school after 84-year-old Newell Barney.

Newell and his wife, Katherine, moved to a farm in what is now Queen Creek in 1948. Sixty years later, and still on the same farm, Queen Creek not only continues to be their home but home to most of their seven children, 40 grand-

children, 61 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild, who all live on the farm.

"That's really their legacy," says son, Kenny Barney. "It's all about family."

The Barneys have given tirelessly to their family and their community as well.

"Mr. Newell Barney has been an

Continued on pg. 15



Photo by Angela De Welles, courtesy of Independent Newspapers

With help from Governing Board President Craig Seymore, Newell Barney, right, cuts the ribbon during a dedication ceremony November 18 for Queen Creek School District's newest school, "Newell Barney Middle School"



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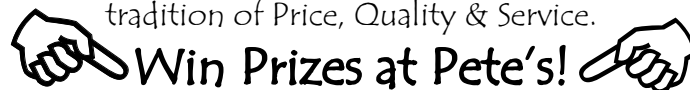
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"thanks for sticking with us all these years!"

Queen Creek School Named for Newel Barney Continued from pg. 14

integral part of Queen Creek throughout his life," states
Principal Denise Johnson on the school's new Web
site. "Therefore, 'Newell Barney Middle School' will
proudly display his name on the marquee and recognize
and thank him for all of his many years of dedication to
the youth of our community."

Brother Barney was born near Safford, Ariz., in 1924
and served in World War II in the U.S. Army.

Over the years, while finding time to serve in the
community—including 21 years on the Queen Creek
school board—Brother Barney also served in various
Church callings. He was the second bishop of the Queen
Creek Ward, later served as stake president and is the
patriarch in the Queen Creek North Stake. Brother and
Sister Barney are both temple workers in the Mesa
Temple.

Principal Johnson believes he was surprised to learn
about the school being named for him. "He's a very
humble man," she says.

Still, Brother Barney says, "It was really special to
have a school named for you while you're still alive. We
get to see it, enjoy it, and be a part of it."

The Barneys have visited the school several times
since it opened in July 2008.

Principal Johnson says the students were excited to
meet the Barneys and get to know them.

For the November dedication, school officials went
to lengths to personalize the ceremony. "We found out

what some of his favorite things were and included
those in the program," the principal says.

The Barneys said they were especially touched by
the students learning and performing "Love At Home."
"We were very honored," says Sister Barney.

Although none of their immediate family attends the
school that is nearly six miles away from their home, the
Barneys feel the school is part of their extended family.

"I think they've claimed us," says Sister Barney.

At the dedication, the Barneys were presented with
a photo album, a jar of dirt from the school's site and a
framed photo of themselves, a copy of which will hang
in the school's front office. A slideshow was shown that
was put together by daughter Brenda Barney McClure,
which depicted her parents' history.

Brother Barney cut the ceremonial ribbon and gave
the school a gift of cotton from his 1,300-acre farm to
put in the school's time capsule that will be dug up in 20
years.

Gail Barney, the family's oldest son and Queen
Creek vice-mayor, says it's an honor for his family to
have his parents recognized this way.

"It's a good school; a quality institution," Gail says.
"It's an honor for both mom and dad."

Kenny Barney says, "I think it was pretty over-
whelming for them, though," he says. "Kids were wear-
ing T-shirts with dad's name on them."

Yet, Kenny adds, while his parents don't seek the
limelight, it was great to have a school named after
them instead of someone that the children would never
be able to meet. "It puts some personality into it."

Soltec Studios Offers Top Quality Continued from pg. 9

surprised to learn what we do as standard practice is not
even offered at other places," Soly adds.

Soltec Studios does all their work in-house, rather
than shipping, often irreplaceable, films and tapes across
the nation or out of the country. In addition, "We keep
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something happens, we are able to provide a copy of the
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Their unique transfer process begins with first
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the original tapes, bringing them to almost-brand-new
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puter re-assimilated and edited—meaning the finished
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"It's almost overkill for transfer work. Most compa-
nies aren't about to implement that in transfer, but, our
experience in the production field has allowed us the
ability to do things this way," and, the two owners say,
their customers are more than pleased with the results.

"There really is no contest for us in the whole Val-
ley," Soly says.

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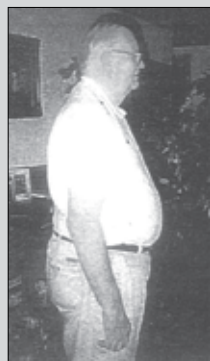
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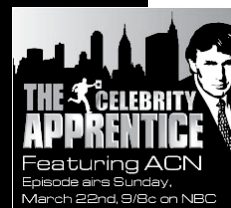
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Networking & Leadership Development Group *Holds Membership Drive*

By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

The Arizona Management Society offers excellent opportunities for LDS men and women—to network, develop leadership skills, rub shoulders with like-minded individuals and to serve as a support to other members of the group and the community as a whole.

Now, with a membership drive designed to give more people a chance to see what the Arizona Management Society is all about, those benefits can be had for half price for new members to the Society.

The Society, whose mission statement is to “grow moral and ethical leader-

ship around the world,” holds monthly meetings that feature guest speakers addressing a wide range of topics. For example, the featured speaker for February’s luncheon was Maricopa Community College Chancellor, Rufus Glasper, PhD. Other past speakers include Roc Arnett, President of East Valley Partnership, and Dennis R Deaton, co-founder Co-Founder and CEO of Quma Learning Systems, Inc.

“We want to provide quality luncheons with strong programs where people can learn and network,” says society president, Kyle Thornton, of the Crosspoint Ward, Mesa Mountain View Stake.

“We also want to provide more and more network support via the LinkedIn online network as well as other networking events as the group sees a need.”

“Within that,” he says, “we are looking to increase our outreach to working professionals as well as to retirees and especially to women who want to participate in the continuing education opportunities the society provides.”

He says for seasoned professionals, managers, anyone starting a new business

or wanting to stay current on economic or business topics, “Arizona Management Society is a great untapped resource.”

According to the group’s Web site, “The Management Society was founded in 1977 by Dean Merrill J. Bateman as an organization of alumni and friends of the BYU College of Business, now Marriott School of Management. Membership includes not only BYU and Marriott School alumni, but many other business professionals with the same desire for professional advancement, high ethical standards, career development, and continuing education.”

For additional information, including dates of upcoming luncheons and other events, visit www.azmgt.com.

As part of the current membership drive, those who are interested and are characterized as “new” members, may sign for the Arizona Management Society between the Beehive print date and April 30 and receive their membership for half price, which is \$18, for their first year of membership. To take advantage of the offer, send an e-mail expressing your interest to info@azmgt.com

New Store Greet Customers Continued from pg. 12

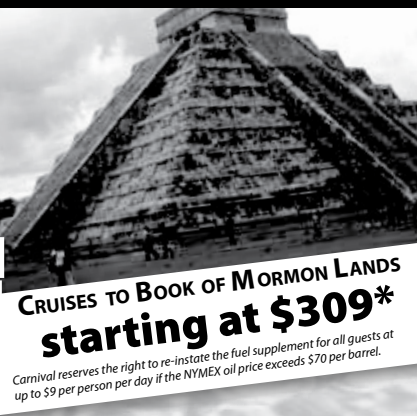
tips and helpful hints in their regularly updated blog, at www.preparingwisely.blogspot.com

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been so enthusiastic about our store and about being able to find quality products at low prices and in one location,” Troy says. “We’re so glad we opened the store.”

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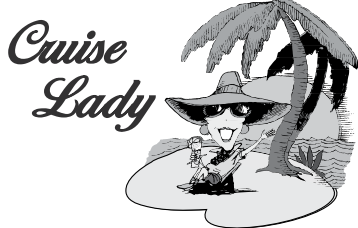
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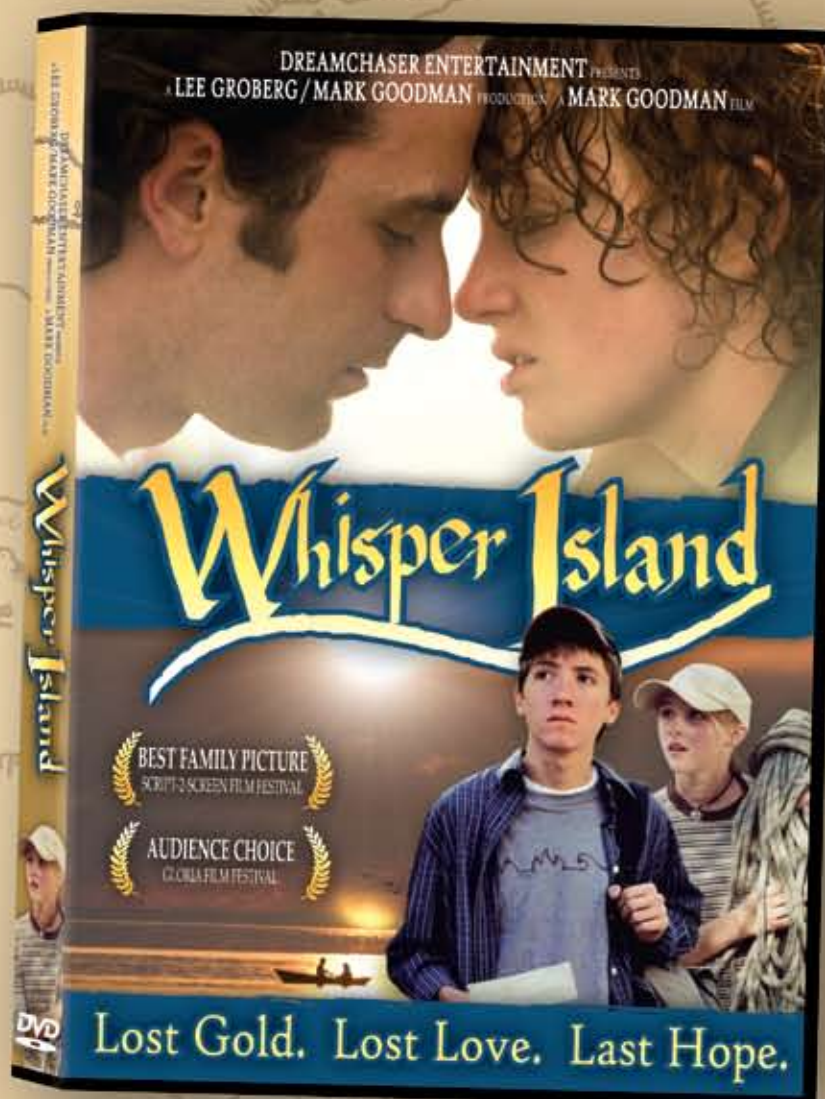


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Book of Mormon Researchers Present Lectures and Tours Based on the “HEARTLAND MODEL”

By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

Book of Mormon researcher, Rod Meldrum returned to Arizona recently to present a series of lectures, this time joining forces with Arizona scholar, Bruce Porter, and others, who have come together under the auspices of an organization called the

FIRM Foundation.

More than a year ago, Rod Meldrum began lecturing across the country, sharing what he had learned through four years of research into scientific journals, historical documents and the scriptures. The research had led to some unexpected

findings regarding DNA—findings that shed new light on the theories about the geographical locations of the Book of Mormon. Thousands have now heard Rod’s live presentation or his DVD titled, “DNA Evidence for the Book of Mormon Geography,” which points

to the “Promised Land” of the United States as the setting for the Book of Mormon.

As Rod has shared his research, other scholars have come forth and have joined Rod in his efforts.

The Foundation for Indigenous Research and Mormonism, also known as the FIRM Foundation, was created. The foundation is dedicated to exploring, researching and disseminating information relating to the “remnant” peoples of the “Promised Land” and their relationship to Mormonism. (See www.TheFirmFoundationOnline.org.)

Among those now associated with the Foundation is Bruce Porter, from Arizona, who currently serves on the Queen Creek Stake High Council. Brother Porter has worked at BYU in the Religious Studies Center and has also for the Church doing scriptural research on the Book of Abraham in Eastern US, Europe, Middle East, and Egypt. He has been a CES Institute director and teacher in Southern California, and is now teaching BYU Continuing Education, adult religion classes in the Mesa area. He has a bachelor of science from BYU in Ancient Near East Studies, a master’s in Ancient Middle East Studies and Egyptology, and a doctorate in the History of Religions.

In addition to seminars being scheduled around the world to share this information, a great deal of free information is available on Rod’s Web site (www.BookOfMormonEvidence.org). DVDs of the presentation are available on the site and Prophecies and Promises, a book co-authored by Bruce and Rod is available for pre-release sales.

The FIRM Foundation has also announced that it has partnered with LDS Travel.com. “We are offering the most exciting new opportunities in LDS travel ever,” says Stephen Dana, of LDS.Travel.com. “Members of the church will now be able to select from dozens of highly educational events and tours that combine Church History with the exciting new ‘Heartland Model’ of the Book of Mormon.”

The LDS.Travel.com Web site gives more information on the Heartland Model, as well as information about the tours and other free presentations across the country. “You’ll be excited to learn of all the new evidence in support of the truthfulness of the Book of Mormon in the Heartland of the United States of America,” LDS.Travel.com states.

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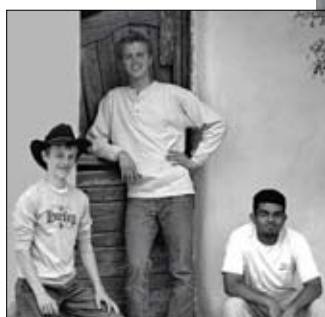
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Gifts & Music Help Others to *Live, Laugh, Love & Remember*

By Julia Griffin
The Beehive

With homemade crafts and music, Kimberly Newman, a single mother of four children ages 5 to 11, provides for her family, while inspiring and uplifting others as well.

Indeed, her small business—called Kim's Music and Gifts—has a big effect on people's lives.

She got her start in music early in life. Her parents, Paul and Clea Newman, of the Kenyon Ward, Tucson East Stake, exposed Kim and her sister, Alicia Burrell, of the Castlegate Ward, Queen Creek East Stake, to music at home and through community concerts.

At four years old, Kimberly began playing piano tunes, by ear. When she started taking lessons at a young age, her teachers quickly saw her potential—one even arranged for a recital for her when she was seven.

Now, her music has become her career. "I am very lucky to work as a musician pretty much full-time. I am



Photo courtesy of Kimberly Newman

Kimberly Newman, a single mother of four—who supports her family by sharing her talents for music and homemade crafts—recently released her first CD called "Live, Laugh, Love and Remember."

Continued on pg. 23

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Included in Debbie's first release are well-known songs by her aunts, Mildred West Wiseman Packard and Wanda West Palmer. She continues the family tradition of inspirational music by sharing these and other favorites to invite all to come to Christ and never leave.

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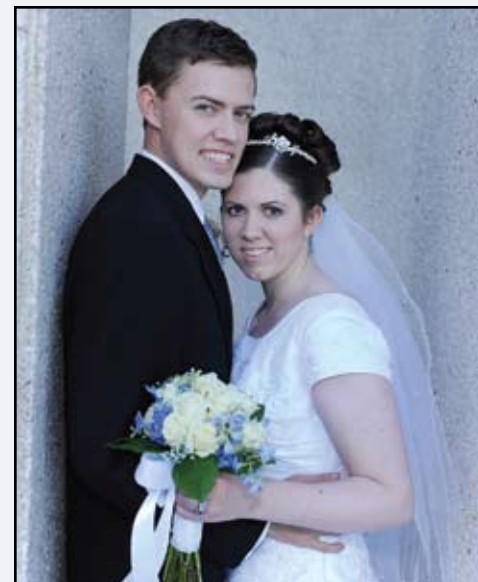
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Gifts & Music Help Others Continued from pg. 21

employed part-time at the University of Arizona as a ballet accompanist, and I also work at a restaurant four days a week, playing piano and singing during the dinner hours from 6 to 9."

Over the years, Kimberly also has fostered her love for music composition. She won her first award in the first grade, competing in the PTO Reflections competition. Today, she writes piano compositions and others that include lyrics.

"Kimberly's love of composition is what has made her so much in demand as a ballet accompanist," her mother says. "She has the unique ability to use clas-

sical and popular songs and intersperse and change the format of them into dance music."

Melissa Lowe, a professor in University of Arizona's School of Dance and Kimberly's boss, says, "Kimberly has provided piano accompaniment for several of the classes that I teach.... Her presence at the piano and the sound environment that she provides with profound sensitivity is nothing short of miraculous."

Professor Lowe continues, "The dancers, who are blessed to dance to her music, find motivation, joy and a distinct connection to her music, which in turn yields a positive result in their dancing. I cannot emphasize enough the value I

place on the contribution Kimberly has made."

In addition to being a gifted accompanist, Kimberly has performed professionally for about three years, singing and accompanying herself on the piano. Her musical repertoire is extensive, including songs from the 1920s to the present. She relates well with audiences of any age group and says she finds joy in seeing the delight on the faces of her audience.

That desire to delight others was Kimberly's impetus for starting her side business.

She explains, "Here in Tucson, there are a lot of retirement communities. As part of my business, I offer them musical programs where I come and play and

sing, and I also offer gifts that are hand-made that they can purchase for things like 'Appreciation Day,' or holidays, etc. I also recently have been asked by two retirement places to teach a monthly craft class to show the residents how to make their own gifts or crafts."

Kimberly's first CD, "Live, Laugh, Love and Remember," was recorded at The Teen Joy Studio in Tucson and released in September 2008. Some of the proceeds from the CD will go to Teen Challenge.

With Professor Lowe, Kimberly is working on a second CD, designed for use with ballet classes. The CD will

Continued on pg. 24

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LDS Women Join **Mesa Federation of Republican Women** to Stay Informed and Involved

By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

In the past few weeks, Arizona has watched the transition as Jan Brewer has moved from her role as Arizona's Secretary of State to take the office of Governor of Arizona, vacated when Janet Napolitano accepted her nomination as Secretary of Homeland Security under the new administration.

Among those front and center to learn what they could about the transition and to see how it may affect them were members of the Mesa Federation of Republican Women (MFRW), who invited Doug Cole, head of Brewer's transition team to their January meeting.

"Each month, on the first Thursday of the month, we have lunch at my home and we get to hear a great speaker. It's a great way to get involved and get educated," says MFRW President Heather Sandstrom. Heather, a member of the Estate Groves Ward in the Citrus Heights Stake, says the catered lunches offer "a

way to have a nice lunch while getting informed at the same time."

She adds, "When I went to vote the last time, I realized that every single person who was on the Republican ticket had spoken to our group over the last year. We've also had people talk about the propositions and groups like Right to Life and United Families have made presentations."

Heather, who has served as the group's president for three years, says the Mesa Federation of Republican Women includes a cross section of ages, with many older members, but a number of young mothers attend as well. She says she believes about half of the group is LDS and says several members of her board are LDS.

"It's so important to know who we're voting for and what the issues are about," Heather says. "It's also important for others to see that LDS women are involved."

Heather's first vice president,

Sherry Pierce, who is a member of the Northridge Ward and serves as the first counselor in the Hermosa Vista Stake Relief Society, agrees.

"As Latter-day Saints, we're counseled to get involved with our community. This is a way we can make a difference with our values and standards," Sherry says, adding, "People who have strong values and standards need to stand up. Things are getting bad and going to get worse. We need to stand up."

Heather says to join the group only costs \$25 for the year and that covers the cost of membership in the Arizona Federation of Republican Women and the National Federation of Republican Women as well. The cost of for the monthly luncheon is \$10. For details about the organization, log on to azfrw.org or to contact Heather Sandstrom for more information or to RSVP for lunch, e-mail her at heather@drsandstrom.com

Gilbert Val Vista Stake Finds Success Continued from pg. 11

'sheep' and, when they know what we're teaching, they can correlate lessons and activities to help their young men fulfill the purposes of the Aaronic Priesthood even better."

Parents, too, are invited to participate each Fast Sunday.

"We teach them mission prep—what they can do to help their sons prepare," says Bishop Slater. "Then we divide up and the boys practice teaching—not their own parents, but adults they don't know."

"They learn how to say things, how to verbalize," says Brother Kitterman.

Class participants are invited to seek missionary experiences and to share those in class each week.

Often, they randomly divide the potential missionaries into "companion sets" to practice everything from bearing testimony, extending challenges, explaining gospel concepts and answering investigators' questions.

"I attend a lot of meetings, but these are some of the more spiritual meetings I attend," says Brother Kitterman. "The boys have such a love for the gospel and such a desire to understand. You can just see them blossom."

They have also seen the class size blossom, from "four or five, sometimes more, to 30 and up. At one time we had 42 coming," says Brother Kitterman.

Perhaps most rewarding, he says, is that the program has "created better unity, a greater missionary spirit, stake-wide, among all the members of the stake."

Gifts & Music Help Others Continued from pg. 23

include some of Kimberly's original compositions and pieces from musicals and movies.

Kimberly, who is currently serving as the Mia Maid Advisor in the Kenyon Ward, Tucson East Stake, says, "I've been truly blessed. Supporting a family on your own, especially through such things as music and crafts, can only happen through answers to prayers and reaching enough interested people with something they enjoy. Slowly but surely I hope to reach this goal."

More about Kimberly Newman can be found at YourLDSNeighborhood.com, Kimsmusicandgifts.com or she can be contacted via snail mail at P.O. Box 44108, Tucson.

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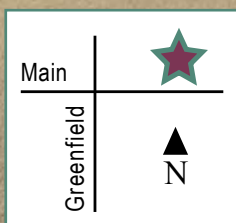
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July 9, 2009 8-days Palmyra, Kirtland, Columbus, St.
Louis, Independence, Bruce Porter & David Beagley

August 6, 2009 8-days Palmyra, Kirtland, St. Louis,
Nauvoo, with David Beagley and Bruce Porter

September 5, 2009 8-days Independence, Nauvoo, St.
Louis with Kay Godfrey and Rod Meldrum

October 5, 2009 8-days Palmyra, Kirtland, Columbus
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October 8, 2009 8-days Palmyra, Kirtland, Columbus
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For the past 4 years Rod has been conducting research involving DNA and the Book of Mormon in scientific journals, historical documents, and the scriptures. His live and recorded presentations have now been seen by thousands of individuals across the country.



Kay Godfrey

Kay Godfrey, is an epoch researcher of the life of The Prophet Joseph Smith. Kay has performed tours for many years with Dick Jensen. Kay's knowledge is expansive and most importantly it is interesting.



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Bruce Porter, is an educator, researcher, and tour director. Bruce has researched items for the Church in Europe and the Middle East. He is a Master of Egyptology and ancient scripture.



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Majestic & Miraculous,

the Mesa Arizona Easter Pageant Celebrates the Savior's Life and Ministry

By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

Some may think the miracle of the Mesa Arizona Easter Pageant is just getting the huge volunteer cast on and off the stage each night. Indeed, with 450 cast members this year and at least 300 more who will participate in the production staff, that alone is a noteworthy accomplishment.

Yet, even more than the mechanics of the pageant, it is behind the scenes and in the audience that the truly miraculous occurs.

The Mesa Arizona Easter Pageant President, Wayne Leavitt, says, the annual pageant, called "Jesus the Christ," accomplishes a monumental achievement in the way it is able, in a short, 65-minute presentation to give members of the community an opportunity "to understand how we, as the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, or what many people refer to as 'Mormons,' feel about the Savior Jesus Christ."

He says the pageant is able to educate and inform, helping people to see "that we truly are believers and followers of the same Jesus Christ that many of them believe in."

In addition to changing minds, the pageant also changes hearts.

Brother Leavitt says people of all faiths attend the pageant, which is free and open to the public every performance night.

"Many have said they have felt the spirit of the pageant and that they have come away with a better understanding of the Savior Jesus Christ. They say, from watching the pageant, they feel they know him better and feel his love," he says.



Photo by Richard Webb

The annual Mesa Arizona Easter Pageant, recognized as one of the largest outdoor pageants in the world, portrays the life and ministry of Jesus Christ through music, dance and drama.

the pageant has evolved into a full-scale, professional theater production. Performed on a 9,600-square-foot stage, towering four-stories high, the pageant portrays the Savior's life and ministry through music, dance and drama.

"This presentation is beautiful and majestic as it focuses on the mission and miracles of Jesus Christ," says Nanci Wudel, who has been involved with the pageant since 1998 and has served as pageant director for the past seven years.

Originally held as a choral sunrise service atop a wooden cotton wagon,

She says the real power of the pageant stems from the cast and crew and their individual preparation.

"They truly try to live as if they were walking in the footsteps of Christ during those weeks of preparation and performance," she says.

This year, the pageant begins March 31, with a public-invited dress rehearsal, in English at 7 p.m. and Spanish at 8:30. Following that, the performances will begin at 8 p.m., with English performances on April 1, 2 and 7 through 11, and Spanish performances April 3 and 4.

The pageant is performed at 525 E. Main Street in Mesa. Free parking is available on surrounding streets, west of Pioneer Park and behind Dairy Queen on Main Street.

Metal chairs and bleacher seating is strictly first-come, first-served; or attendees may bring blankets and lawn chairs to sit on any available grass space. No general reserved seating is available, and no block seating reserved signs may be posted on chairs.

For additional information, visit www.easterpageant.org or call (480) 964-7164.

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Plane Crash Survivors

Count their Blessings



Photo courtesy of Courtney Kendrick

Stephanie and Christian Nielson of Mesa were critically injured in a small plane crash in August. Cristian, who suffered a broken back and burns to 35 percent of his body was released from the hospital in October, and Stephanie, who was burned over 83 percent of her body, was released in December. They are now both in Provo where they are undergoing extensive rehab and where family members are helping to care for their four children, Claire, 7, Jane, 6, and Ollie, 4, and Nicholas, 2.

By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

It's hard to even fathom what the last six months have been like for Christian Nielson, 30, and his wife, Stephanie, 28, since they were injured

when a private plane crashed August 16 in St. Johns, Arizona.

Christian suffered a broken back and

Continued on pg. 29

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Plane Crash Survivors
Continued from pg. 28

was burned on 35 percent of his body, and Stephanie on 83 percent of hers. A third person on the plane, the pilot and their good friend, Doug Kinneard, 48, of the Thayer Park Ward, Mesa Mountain View Stake, died from his injuries.

The Nielsons both in drug-induced comas at first, were in the hospital for weeks, their four young children, ages 2 to 7, farmed out to family who took them in like their own. From the first, the prognosis was grim, especially for Stephanie. Even as their healing progressed, they found the process was agonizingly painful and emotionally taxing. Now, even six months later, both face additional surgery and months of extensive rehabilitation.

Yet, Christian says, with a laugh at his own pun, "I know it sounds funny, but we're grateful for this 'refiner's fire.'"

"We know now more than ever that the Lord is in control," Christian says. "We cling to that and it gives us hope for the future."

Among the many blessings they count is life itself.

Christian says, "We feel fortunate. We came close to death but the Lord had more for us to do and we were privileged to stay here a little longer."

They also consider it a "great blessing" to share similar injuries. Christian now is able to do most of his rehab and physical therapy at home, while Stephanie is still doing the majority of hers at the local hospital and burn unit.

"I'm one month or two months ahead

of where Stephanie is, but I feel privileged to know what she's going through. I'm happy to know I can help."

Similarly, he says, "It helps her to watch me and to feel like she's going to regain functionality."

Christian says he's thankful, too, "for the host of lessons for me personally, the lessons for Stephanie and I as a couple, and how that has extended to our children, to our family, or friends...each has their own take on what this tragedy has meant and what goodness has come from this."

He says their family was close before, but, "This was a refining moment for our family."

Family members on both his sides were there to help in untold, Christlike ways, Christian says. Many others—including friends, ward members, people from his work and the community and many others who didn't even know the Nielson's but heard about their accident from news reports or were acquainted with Stephanie from her popular blog—all pitched in. There came an outpouring of cards and letters, hours of service, generous donations and countless fundraising efforts, including balloon releases, a 5K run, numerous concerts and online auctions.

"It has been really great to see people from all over the world

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respond in their own special way. We are honored to be the recipients of so much kindness," Christian says.

He adds that are particularly aware and grateful for the prayers offered in their behalf.

"In my first moments of consciousness, I asked my bishop (Curtis Brown of the Lazona Ward, Mesa Central Stake) to thank people for their prayers. Stephanie and I both felt the power of those prayers. It was truly remarkable. And, the result has been a bona fide miracle."

Wanting to express at least a portion of the gratitude he feels, Christian posted a video on YouTube in December. To view it, go to: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZtLoMosPri0>

With continuing rehab and costly surgeries ahead, the Nielsons are grateful for the continued support. "We're glad to see that people are still interested. We're overwhelmed that they are so generous with their donations, their prayers and support."

While Christian admits, "We definitely have low spots. Every day or so we have real low spots," but, he quickly adds, "This has been a force for good in a lot of people's lives. So much good has come from this tragedy, that I don't think I would trade it for anything."

To make a donation to the Nielson's recovery or to learn more about how to help, visit www.nierecovery.com

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Local Talent Participates in Commercial to Promote Traditional Marriage

By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

Cameron Trejo has found yet another occasion to use his work and talents to share strong testimony and beliefs through the medium of film.

Known by many as the creator of the moving documentary that chronicles the making of the Reflections of Christ project by Mark Mabry, Jr., Cameron was recently asked to help produce a television commercial designed to promote the marriage between a man and a woman.

Frank Dibugnara, a respected director known especially for his commercial projects, music videos and other high-level projects, approached Cameron about helping with the commercial.

"He came to me in November," Cameron says. "He's a really good guy, a devout Catholic and we've had a good relationship. We sort of understand each other and one another's strong values."

Dibugnara, and the production company Lukas Media, had been retained by an organization called Nation for Marriage to produce a television commercial in support of marriage only between a man and a woman.

"Frank told me, 'I'd like for you to produce it' and he would direct and shoot it," Cameron says.

As plans began to unfold, Cameron says they knew the message was such that, "We would never, never be able to get paid talent that could do it. We knew up front that we needed people who actually believed in what they would be saying on the commercial. We wanted people who were adamant about the message."

He admits it was somewhat unorthodox to consider using amateur talent for a project of this magnitude. "A great deal of money was involved and NBC, ABC, FOX and all the 'big hitters' would be showing the commercial on the east coast," Cameron says.

They approached Nanci Wudel, director of the Mesa Easter Pageant, and, "She was really integral in all of



Photo by Mark Mabry

Videographer Cameron Trejo, owner of East Valley Productions, recently was part of the team that produced a television commercial in support of traditional marriage, which will be aired back east on major networks.

this," Cameron says. They had already handpicked some who were leaders and high-profile members of the Catholic Church. "We needed five others," Cameron says. "Nanci supplied a list of about 14 possibilities. We had them come in, shot their faces and had them read lines, and the client picked who she wanted."

Cameron says the shoot itself was "very successful. It was a big, diverse group of outspoken Catholics and headstrong Mormons," he laughs. "At one point, eight of the people, from these different faiths, were having an in-depth discussion about why they were there and how important the message was. Here were members of two strong religious groups, and they could have been battling points of view." Instead, he says, they were united in their desire to portray a strong view on marriage.

"The commercial makes some bold statements," Cameron says, noting that the organization, Nation for Marriage, sees good reason to continue speaking out for what they feel is right, even though it's not an election year.

Cameron says his participation has come into question, some suggesting that he may be limiting his chances to participate in certain projects in the future.

"I know I may have burned some bridges, but it's what I believe and that's what it is," he says, adding that the project "forced me to bear down on my personal testimony and express why I support what I support, and do it without down-trodding on others."

"It was a very, very fun, very collaborative effort." Cameron and his wife, Rechelle, are members of the Mesquite Canyon Ward, Desert Ridge Stake, where Cameron serves as Young Men's President. He says the commercial will begin airing on the east coast in late February. To learn more about Nation for Marriage, visit www.nationformarriage.com

Beehive editor opens

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with new novel

Counting the Cost

by Liz Adair

By Rachel Faas Trim
The Beehive

For Cecily Markland, a talent and love for writing has blessed her with a 20-year writing career. This includes not only her position as editor of The Beehive newspaper, but also her "day job" as an editor and technical writer.

Over the years, her experience as a public relations and marketing professional, Web content writer and book editor, laid the foundation for her newest adventure as a publisher.

But, it wasn't until best-selling author Liz Adair began searching for just the right publisher that Cecily's plans came together. In August 2008, Cecily opened Inglestone Publishing, a supplier of ghostwriting, editing and publishing services.

Inglestone's maiden publication, *Counting the Cost*, is Liz Adair's fifth novel. Liz is known for her three-book Spider Latham mystery series and best-selling novel, *The Mist of Quarry Harbor* (published by Deseret Book).

Her latest novel reflects the heartache and struggles of a couple and their extended family, living in New Mexico in the 1930s. Based on Liz's family history, *Counting the Cost* portrays the life of an uncle who was the first in her family to encounter the gospel, revealing along the way his somewhat rocky path to repentance and redemption.

"The story literally poured out of me. I knew it was

Continued on pg. 37

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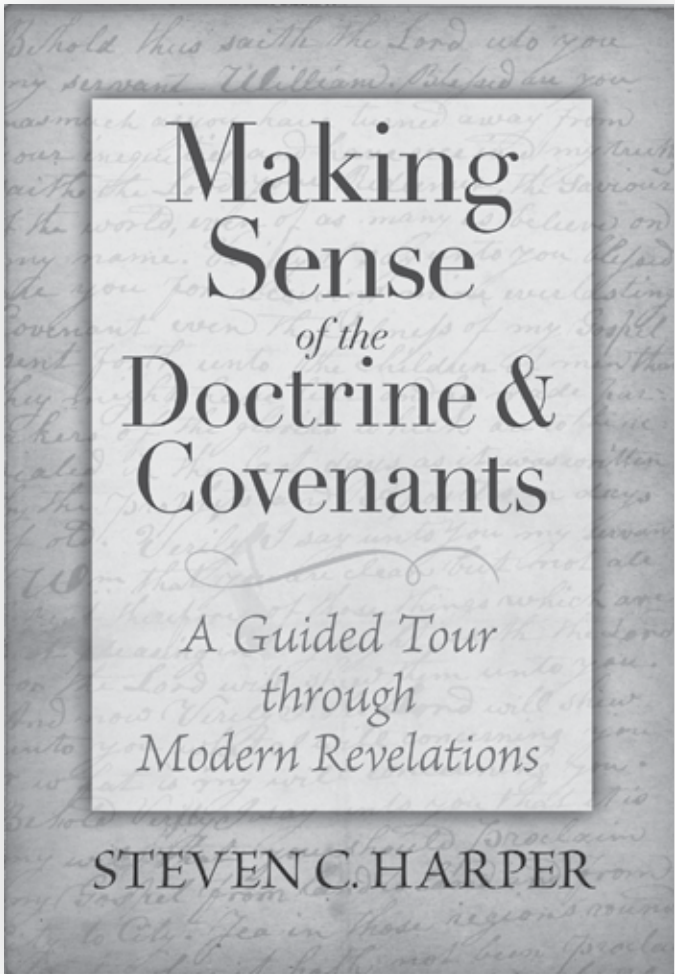
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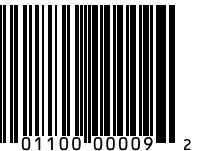
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East Valley author, Janette Rallison, adds a few **NEW TWISTS** to her latest Young Adult books

By Rachel Faas Trim
The Beehive

In January, Janette Rallison's 14th book, *My Fair Godmother*, became available in stores nationwide. Her 15th, *Just One Wish*, will be released in early March. Both are slightly different than former publications from this veteran author. *My Fair Godmother*, a young adult (YA) sweet-romantic-comedy, has a fractured-fairytale fantasy twist; *Just One Wish*, presents a storyline with a life-threatening situation that moves beyond her usual comedic style.

"The idea for *My Fair Godmother*," says Janette, "developed after I had written a road show for the youth in my ward. The production of 'Beauty and the Priest,' a fractured-fairytale, was fun to write and, in the end, inspired me to write more fantasy."

The story's main character, Savannah Delano, wants a true prince to take her to the prom. To her surprise, a gum-chewing, cell-phone carrying godmother is assigned to make her wish come true. Yet, Chrissy (Chrysanthemum) Everstar is not a typical godmother. Instead, this less-than-perfect fairy student, (hence, the name Fair Godmother) mistakenly sends Savannah and her classmate, Tristan, back in time to the Middle Ages. Savannah experiences life as Cinderella and Snow White and Tristan and Savannah team up to defeat a troll, a dragon and a knight.

Janette says *My Fair Godmother* is getting great reviews and movie rights for the book are in negotiation.

"Young adult fantasy books often have less of the edgy feel typically present in contemporary young adult fiction," she says. "Generally, fantasy books concentrate on the fight between good and evil."

Reviewers cheer *My Fair Godmother* for its entertaining mix of humor and fantasy.

On the opposite end, her soon-to-be-released, *Just One Wish*, realistically tackles the serious subject of childhood cancer. Seventeen-year-old Annika tries to help her little brother, Jeremy, believe that he can survive his next surgery. Her attempt to convince him that a magic genie will grant his wish leaves her scrambling to arrange a visit from his favorite television idol. In a story rooted in real possibilities, Janette weaves emotions that have readers laughing and crying.

"Usually, a story takes me a while to write," says Janette, "but, this one poured out of me. The main character is very real. She is mad at God. She wants to believe in Him, but she also wonders how God could let her brother get cancer."

"I tend to shy away from sad books," Janette continues. "When you live through sadness, sometimes you don't

like the way death is handled in most fiction, usually without satisfying conclusions of life after death. I don't remember my mother well, I was six when she died. But, I know I want to see her again."

With the encouragement of her editor, Janette decided to write a book that included a painful situation. The topic required her to thoroughly research cancer treatments and how the disease affects patients, their families and friends. Because the publishing world can be fickle about religious or spiritual themes, Janette says, she was surprised to find that her editor and publishing company were thrilled with her newest mix of seri-

ous and funny fiction.

"When I write funny stories," says Janette, "I laugh as I write them and I laugh through the first couple of reads. Then the book isn't that funny to me anymore. This time, I cried as I wrote it and I cried each time I edited it. I think readers might cry when they read it, but hopefully they'll still think it has a satisfying end."

Members of the Grove 1st Ward, Chandler East Stake, Janette and her husband, Guy, are the parents of five children.

For more information about Janette



Photo by Sarah Goodman Photography

Local author, Janette Rallison, celebrates the release of her 14th and 15th books.

Rallison's "clean reads" or to access her blog, please log onto: www.janetterallison.com.

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Documentary film "The Land of Refuge" tells the story of the Mormon Colonies in Mexico

By Beulah Martin
The Beehive

The recent release of a documentary film about the Mormon Colonies marked the culmination of 10 years of research, writing, scripting, casting, filming and editing.

The film, titled "The Land of Refuge," is the work of Pamela Jo Bowman, of the Harmony Park Ward, Kimball Stake, and Cyndi Greening, of Gilbert, collaborating as Greening Productions.

"The Land of Refuge," tells how the Colonies, established in northern Mexico between 1885 and 1910, were created by the predominantly polygamous families who had left the United States to avoid arrest and prosecution for following their faith. These devout Latter-day Saints carved an existence out of the barren desert and, within a few years, their communities flourished.

Pamela's research began in the 1980s, when she and her husband, Chris, moved to one of the remaining settlements of Colonia Dublan in Mexico's state of Chihuahua, south of El Paso, Texas.

"My experience with moving down there was totally different than the experience for the women who went there in 1885," Sister Bowman says. "In the beginning, some lived in cavern-like holes along a river or in their wagons."

In 1996, when Chris was called to be

the bishop of their ward, he asked Pamela to write a pageant play highlighting the history of the Mormon colonies. Her play depicted the challenges of getting land and surviving in the hardship conditions, the dangers of Pancho Villa, and the difficulties in trying to stay politically neutral.

Cyndi Greening has been involved in filmmaking since 1983. Though she is not a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, in her capacity as a media arts professor, she had hundreds of students through the years who were members of the Church; yet, she had never heard the story of the Mormon Colonies. She found the story fascinating and compelling.

"What is clear to me is that the people who lived in the Mexican Colonies were devoted Mormons," Cyndi says. "They really believed in their hearts and souls that they were doing what they thought was morally right. They had married their wives and they wanted to support their families and that is why they went to Mexico."

Pamela and Cyndi decided to produce the film to document the importance of those settlements and to honor the founders. As part of their research, producers read hundreds of journals and personal



Photo by Joyce Nittolo

Cyndi Greening (r) and Pamela Bowman, collaborators on the recently released film, "The Land of Refuge" about the Mormon Colonies in Mexico, are shown at the Sundance Film Festival outside The Filmmaker Lodge, where they attended a panel discussion on distributing independent films.

histories. They traveled to southern Arizona, California and Utah to interview experts, historians and surviving settlers.

"One of the most difficult parts of

this project was selecting which quotes, documents, photographs and movies to use in the film. Our goal was to allow the original colonists to tell the story," Pamela says.

With a crew of six, Cyndi and Pamela traveled to Mexico. Pamela says she was determined to get as many descendents of the original colonists as possible to represent their ancestors in the film. She says thousands of individuals have heard their grandparents and parents talk about the colonies. Many of these descendants have expressed gratitude to the filmmakers for capturing the sights, sounds, music and history of their ancestors.

One viewer said, "We learned more about the Colonies than Dad has shared with us over the years. Congratulations on a job well done!"

"I am proud of this film" Pamela says. "I believe it tells a good story because it is based on the journal writings of those who actually went through this ordeal. We spent hours, days and weeks trying to find visuals that could represent their words and do justice to their lives. I believe it is amazing."

To find out more about the film, or to order copies, visit www.thelandofrefuge.com.

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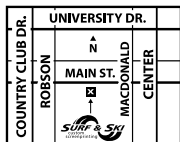


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One Heart One Purpose

By Jill B. Adair
The Beehive

Christ-centered songs that she says came to her through inspiration were what led Shauna Hart to produce a fireside program that focuses on the Savior and the Restoration of His gospel.

"The Lord has always spoken to me through music," says Sister Hart of the Mesa Hermosa Vista Stake.

The first song came nearly 10 years ago as she was mopping a floor; others came in the ensuing years, but most of the more than 15 songs were written more recently.

"I started to see the story unfold," Shauna says. The first songs focused on the life of the Savior, then came other songs about the Restoration, and she knew the two themes must go hand in hand.

"Once a song comes to me it takes about 10 to 15 minutes to get it down on paper," she explains. "The challenge is that I don't really read or write music that well." She sought help with the arrangements from local musicians Rebekah Jennings and Brent Jorgenson to match the music with the song in her head.

Music has been a part of Sister Hart's life since she was 17. While working at a preschool, she decided she wanted to teach the children music. She found an autoharp at home and taught herself how to play.

Since then, she has taught and shared

her love of music with others.

Through this experience she says she has learned that Heavenly Father takes ordinary people and helps them accomplish extraordinary things.

"If you aspire to know Him personally, you will be more motivated to follow in His ways," she says. "How can you follow someone you don't know? That was the journey I was on when I first started composing these songs; I wanted to get to know Christ personally."

"Heavenly Father answered my prayers through music, which has been a pattern of communication for me my whole life," she continues. "Now I have an opportunity to share this intimate portrait of the Savior to the world. It has humbled me and, gives me tremendous joy to be a literal instrument in His hands."

The program, titled "One Heart One Purpose," debuted in the Mesa Hermosa Vista Stake in November. There were 45 members of the choir, 13 in the orchestra and a packed audience. The response to the program's message was tremendous.

Shauna plans to put the program on again in March and is making a song-book available to others.

Jeffrey Walker, of the Gilbert Higley Stake, who sang in the choir and as the soloist in the song, "Gethsemane," says he was especially touched by that



Photos courtesy of Shauna Hart

Shauna Hart recently produced a fireside program focusing on the Savior and the restoration of the gospel.

song. "It was one of those songs where I connected with the feelings trying to be shown at that moment and thought, 'This will definitely change people's lives.'"

"I believe the reaction was a strong experience for people in the audience—that they felt closer to Christ," he adds. "There was not a dry eye in the crowd."

Sister Hart was pleased with the response from those involved in the program and those who saw it. She hopes it will continue to help others draw closer to the Savior and understand the importance of the Restoration.

"I don't take credit for this," she says. "It's been a gift; the Lord has a plan for this."

For more information, go to www.hartsongs.net.

Beehive Editor Opens Inglestone Continued from pg. 32

meant to be written," says Liz. "Cecily recognized what it could be and chose to publish it. I'm impressed with her excellent abilities as an editor and we work well together."

Cecily says, "*Counting the Cost* is engaging, uplifting and, at times, breaks your heart. Liz paints a moving picture of her ancestors' lives—and of their great tests of honor, loyalty, integrity, forgiveness and love." She adds, "It's an excellent story for our times as it reminds us that people have overcome great difficulties all throughout history. It's a story that needed to be told."

Cecily, of the Gilbert 9th Ward, Val Vista Stake, has 6 grown children and 13 grandchildren.

Of her company name, Cecily says, "The word 'ingle' means hearth. While 'stone' comes from the scripture in Luke where Christ says if his followers were silenced, 'the stones would immediately cry out.' Together, the words represent what I want to promote—family, love, truth, and testimonies of Jesus Christ."

To celebrate the release of *Counting the Cost*, Inglestone will host a publication party from 7 to 9:30 p.m. Friday, March 6 at Rockin' R Ranch, 6136 E. Baseline Rd., in Mesa. This event is free and open to the public. *Counting the Cost* will be offered at a special price and Liz will be on hand to sign books. Refreshments will be provided by the authors of *The Fat Sisters Cookbook*, and their book will be available as well.

To contact Liz Adair or Cecily Markland, sign up for Inglestone's free newsletter or receive event updates, visit www.inglestonepublishing.com

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Rain stops long enough for Pueblo Stake's **PIONEER TREK**

By Dale Baker
The Beehive

“Walking the Light” was the motto as 87 Young Men and Young Women and their adult leaders from the Mesa Pueblo Stake took a 19-mile trek across the Arizona desert in January.

Pueblo Stake President, Michael Fleming, says they were hoping to accomplish one primary objective.

“Our goal was to allow the young men and young women to experience their pioneer heritage and learn to work together in families,” he says.

Donna Robinson, Stake Trek Director says, “It rained the week before and after the trek, but the weather was perfect for the three days of the trek.”

To add to the pioneering experience, the youth participated in telling pioneer stories, singing, shooting black powder guns, making cornhusk dolls and candles,, playing tug-of-war and square dancing.

“Each youth had to research an ancestor and carry the ancestor’s name with them on the trek,” Sister Robinson explains.

She says, “They all participated in an hour-long scripture study each night.”

Another activity was designed to teach the youth about caring for families and about some of the difficult experiences that entailed.

“Each of the 10 families received a

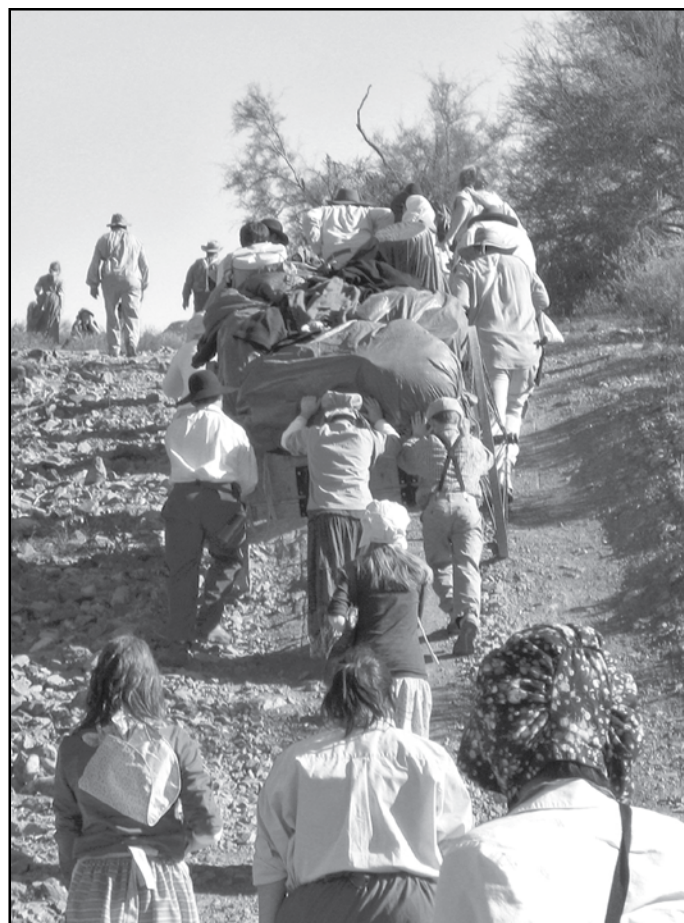


Photo by Craig Ray

Young Men and Young Women from the Pueblo Stake participated in a pioneer trek, pushing and pulling their handcarts across 19 miles of the Arizona desert to get a better idea of the challenges the pioneers faced when crossing the plains in the mid 1800s.

bean bag ‘baby’ which they had to hold the entire time,” Sister Robinson says.

“Some ‘died’ during the trek and others were ‘born’ along the way. It was hard for the families to have to bury their ‘babies’ when they died.”

Sister Robinson continues, “On the second night, the youth had to pack up the camp after dark and move a short distance further along the trail and set up camp again.”

President Fleming says this exercise “taught them to obey, even when they didn’t understand the purpose.”

“On the last day, the Young Men were led away from the Young Women and taken to a hill where they watched the Young Women work to move the handcarts about ¾ mile further down the trail,” Sister Robinson explained.

President Fleming says, as they watched, “I talked to the Young Men about being worthy priesthood holders and remaining virtuous, clean and pure.”

He continues, “It was tough for the Young Men to watch the girls struggle.”

In fact, he adds, “The Young Men ran the mile to catch up with them so they could help.”

Justin Harwood, of the Acacia Ward, says, “My favorite part of the trek was the testimony meeting held at the end.” He adds, “I felt that I received a good understanding of what the pioneers went through.”

Sister Robinson says, “The [youth] learned that they have the same trials as the pioneers, to help each other and stay with each other and about not giving up.”

Joining the Pueblo Stake youth on their trek, were two young women from Australia who are not members of the Church.

Sister Robinson says, “After they returned to Australia we received a letter from them stating that the trek was the best part of their visit to America.”

The soul would have no rainbows, if the eyes possessed no tears.



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Gilbert couple's expertise in **SELF-RELIANCE** serves them on mission

By Valerie Ipson
The Beehive

As part-time Welfare Service Missionaries, Alan and Julia Griffin draw from a rich well of knowledge and experience as they teach others about food storage and preparedness. The calling gives them the opportunity to share their expertise with the many stakes and wards that make up the five regions serviced by the Mesa Cannery.

"Food storage has been constantly in my mind," says Sister Griffin. "Whenever I'd go to the store, I would automatically get a few extra items that were on sale. We have used our food storage on a consistent basis. We tried to teach our children to cook and sew—doing it as a family and making it fun."

Her husband has gardened for years, experimenting and continually learning and honing new skills, involving the family, as well.

Now they travel, by request, to teach Church leaders and members about food storage. The Griffins say their presentations focus on the following:

1. The "All Is Safely Gathered In" pamphlet recently published by the Church
2. Basic helps, hints, and methods for food and water storage
3. Information about the Mesa Cannery
4. Material presented on providentliving.org
5. Basic history and principles of Church Welfare

They say the instruction can take place in various Church settings, including Relief Society Enrichment, Sacrament meetings or fifth Sunday meetings, Stake and Ward Leadership or Council meetings, Ward or Stake firesides or preparedness activities, or wherever else it might be appropriate.

Based on the needs of the leaders and members in a particular ward or stake, the Griffins can address general or specific subjects or concerns. For example, a recent training provided motivational presentations on food storage, the relationships between food storage and finances, and information about how to plan and obtain food storage.

"We teach the members to follow the brethren in getting their three-month supply and water storage," says Sister Griffin. "This is the focus instead of what was previously termed 'year's supply.' The counsel is to buy what your family will eat in a quantity to last three months."

The Griffins encourage desert-dwelling members to store three months' of food, but to double the recommended amounts for water.

The couple, who reside in the Madera Ward, Gilbert Stapley Stake, also teach classes in solar cooking, Dutch oven cooking, gardening and using grains.

Brother and Sister Griffin agree their goal is to encourage the members they serve to become more self-reliant.

"We want to help them see they can do it," Sister Griffin says and adds, "We tell them to go to the Lord, get His help. Sometimes we think we can't approach the Lord about something like [food storage], but when we do our part, he will help."

When the Griffins teach, they share several scriptures and quotes about the

importance of food storage. They say, one of their favorites, by Marion G. Romney, accurately sums up the vision of the preparedness program.

"Without self-reliance one cannot exercise these innate desires to serve. How can we give if there is nothing there? Food for the hungry cannot come from empty shelves. Money to assist the needy cannot come from an empty purse. Support and understanding cannot come from the emotionally starved. Teaching cannot come from the unlearned. And most important of all, spiritual guidance cannot come from the spiritually weak." (From Conference Report, Oct. 1982.)



Photo courtesy of Julia Griffin

When invited to do so, part-time Welfare Service Missionaries, Alan and Julia Griffin, present helpful information about food storage and preparedness to ward councils, at Relief Society Enrichment Meetings, for fifth Sunday meetings, or for other ward, stake or family gatherings.

As they serve by teaching, training, and leading, the Griffins know that as they help families prepare, those families, in turn, are better able to serve and help those around them.

For questions concerning the Mesa Cannery, call 480-214-9114. To contact the Griffins or to schedule a presentation, e-mail huecolors@msn.com or call 480-892-3645.

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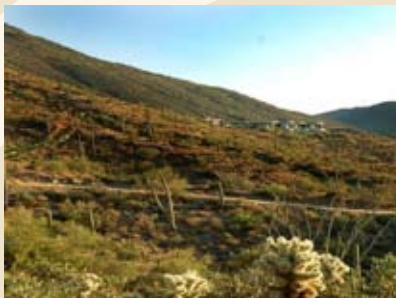
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